NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1876.-TRIPLE SHEET.

WASHINGTON.

A STEP TOWARD A COMPROMISE. JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE PRESIDENCY-A TEN-DENCY TO WRANGLE, HOWEVER, IN THE HOUSE HEAD MONEY.

A large joint committee of Congress has been appointed to agree on a settlement in regard to the electoral vote if possible. The House yesterday was the scene of a heated debate on the Louisiana election. Sharp hits were made by Mr. Cox, Mr. Townsend, and others. The propriety of a head-money tax was earnestly debated in committee by men from New-York and Boston. No business of importance of a general character was transacted by Congress.

JOINT COMMITTEE. SEVEN MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE TO AGREE ON A SETILEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. Accompanying the report of the Judiciary Committee of the House on the McCrary resolution yesterday, and preceding the resolution for a special committee on the privileges, powers, and duties of the House in counting the vote for President, was a resolution which escaped general notice. The resolution in reality amounted to taking preliminary measures for a compromise of the difference between the House and the Senate. It provided for a committee of seven members to act in conjunction with any similar committee that may be appointed by the Senate, to prepare and report without delay such a measure, either legislative or constitutional, as may be the best calculated to accomplish the desired end of determining questions with regard to the legality and validity of the election returns. In substance it is the McCrary resolution itself. The action of the House in adopting this was notified to the Senate to-day, and Mr. Edmunds promptly offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee on the part of the Senate. Under the rules this was laid over until Monday. It will then be taken up and passed, no doubt by a unanimous vote. Thus the two Houses will be brought together by committees charged with the duty of examining all the grounds of controversy, and arranging, if possible, a settlement upon which both can agree.

It is highly important that the members of these committee shall represent the moderate and conservative sentiment of both parties, and that bitter partisans shall have no place upon them. The Senate should appoint from among the Republicans such men as Edmunds, Morrill, Conkling, and Wright, and on the Democratic side Mr. Bayard's name naturally suggests itself. In the House no better man than Scott Lord could be found to head the committee, while Benjamin Hill, H. B. Payne, John Hancock, Col. Lamar, Hooker of Mississippi, and Tucker of Virginia, or men of similar character, would be among the best who could be found to complete the majority. Among the Republicans there are many who could be depended upon to act with judicial calmness. Of these there may be named Gen. Garfield, Henry L. Peirce, Charles Fos ter, Prof. Seelye, Mr. McCrary, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Monroe, and others. Sensible men in both Houses begin to see how profitless and even dangerous is continuous partisan discussion, and they will be strongly disposed to support any recommendation of the committee which will tend to allay the popular excitement and bring about a speedy and fair adjustment of the troublesome questions growing out of the disputed election.

PARTY RAMPANT IN THE HOUSE. LACK OF CALMNESS IN DEBATING THE LOUISIANA ELECTION-A LAUGH AT MR. COX. (BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- Every heated discussion like that which took place in the House to-day upon the bill making appropriations for the expense for the investigating committees sent South does more harm than good. Calm, statesmanlike consideration of the nice questions of law and policy involved in the present controversy is needed to bring about a satisfactory solution of them. Every time that a wrangle takes place in the House or the Senate over any of the questions now at issue the fire of party spirit is kindled anew, and the men whose duty it is unfitted for the duties they will be called upon to perform.

Just how far the proceedings of the Louisiana Returning Board were public, and just how much the people of the country know about its proceedings, are matters which ought to lead to no discussion. It was therefore equally unfair for Mr. Cox to assert that the Returning Board held its meetings in secret and for Mr. Hale to deny it. The board did open all the returns from every parish in the State in the presence of the visiting committees from the North; and when it considered such testimony as accompanied the returns from contested pacounsel for the candidates sides were allowed to be present. All affidavits and interrogatories introduced by each side were also submitted to the other for cross-examnation. But when the important duty of weigh ing and acting upon the evidence submitted was reached, the Louisiana Returning Board closed its doots upon everybody and kept its proceedings strictly secret. No one knows to-day what took place at the meetings of the Returning Board held between the last Saturday and Tuesday afternoon of its session. No one knows what evidence they considered as worthy of consideration and what they rejected. No one knows except unofficially which parishes were counted as returned by the election officers and the returns from which were rejected in part or in whole.

Mr. Cox was also unfair in his strictures on the board touching their refusal to produce papers before the committee now in Louisiana. Those papers are official State documents, which must be presented to the Legislature at its meeting next mouth. If they should be lost or mutilated there would be no evidence by which to determine the result of the late election. It is therefore eminently proper that the board shall guard these papers with greatest care. But the board has already allowed the committee to copy them all, and ample opportunity will no doubt be given for the committo satisfy itself that those copies are in every

Mr. Hale, on the other hand, gave a very unsatis factory explanation of the failure of the Returning Board to make good its number by the appointment of a fifth member. He said that the place had been offered to a number of Democrats, all of whom refused to accept it. This is positively denied by the Louisiana Democratic politicians. It was a nobrious fact that prominent Republicans of Louisiana and members of the Northern visiting committee repeatedly excused this failure to appoint a fifth member of the board. They did so on the ground but the Democrats asserted that certain members

of the board might be corrupted. Some spicy cross-firing occurred between Mr. Cox in the one side and Mr. Townsend of New-York and Mr. Kelley on the other. Mr. Cox remarked at one stage of the debate that he was ashamed of the er side on account of certain assertions which been made. Martin L Townsend, who was standing in the middle aisle, and who, if his counknance was any index of his feelings, was growing more and more angry as Mr. Cox proceeded, inter-tupled him with the exclamation, "The shame is val." Mr. Cox retorted, "This side of the House celess," which caused general laughter at his expense. His subsequent explanation and quotation from Webster's Dictionary was not successful

The bill was finally passed, reducing the appro-Briation for the Senate committees from \$50,000 to

\$30,000, and increasing that for the House committees, including the committee sent to Northern cities, from \$21,000 to \$30,000.

GROVER'S FRIENDS IN THE SENATE. PROFUSION OF TECHNICAL EXCUSES FOUND FOR HIM-DEMOCRATS EVADE THE ISSUE OF MORAL-ITY AND LEGALITY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 15 .- The Democrats in e Senate continue to treat the Oregon case with an evident lack of frankness and apparent want of sincerity. They find all sorts of technical excuses for Gov. Grover's action. They delve diligently in English and American law reports for cases which can be twisted into the form of precedents. They deprecate all criticism upon the Governor's action, and try to make him out as a giant in politics, who rigorously adhered to his conscientious view of his duty in the premises. They decline, however, to say whether they think his action right, either from a legal or a moral point of view. No amount of questioning on the part of the Republicans can make them commit themselves on the essential point of the question. The only explanation of their conduct is that in leaving open this vital question of the rightfulness and legality of Gov. Grover's performance, they desire not to debar themselves from taking a position in open defense of his action in case the necessities of the polit ical situation may hereafter seem to demand it. Thus they are in reality engaged in fortifying the approaches to a position which, although not very defensible, they fear they may be obliged to take refuge upon.

Senator Wallace, alone among his associates, expressed a definite and distinct opinion on the Oregon affair to-day. He held that there were in reality only two electors legally appointed, and that therefore the State had forfeited one of its three electoral votes.

Senator Thurman made another speech to-day excusing Gov. Grover's action. He had the Secretary read a four column letter from Judge Hoadley of Cincinnati to The Commercial, in which the Judge gave from memory the substance of the opinion furnished to Gov. Grover at at the instance of Tilden's friends. In the course of this story recently published of a conspiracy between Senator Sherman and Gen. Sherman to seize upon theG overnneut after the 4th of March. The Senator interrupted the reading. Smiling at the absurdity of the idea, he said that the statement was a lie so palpable that he did not suppose it could deceive any one; he was surprised bobbing around a good deal of late in politics, had been taken in by it.

DISCUSSING THE HEAD-MONEY TAX. HAMILTON HILL OF BOSTON AND MR. RANDOLPH AGAINST IT IN COMMITTEE-MR. DEVLIN 'OF NEW-YORK IN FAVOR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Dec. 15 .- The bill introduced y Mr. Cox last session at the suggestion of the New-

York Emigration Commission, legalizing the collection of \$2 head money for each immigrant arriving at our Atantic ports, was discussed during the whole session of the Commerce Committee of the House to-day. Gentlemen from New-York and Boston represented those who nvor and those who oppose the measure. Hamilton Hill, representing the Boston Board of Trade,

was the first speaker. He directed the attention of the Committee to numerous resolutions adopted by meetings of business men in various parts of the country during the past few years in regard to the collection of head money. He said that the Boston Board of Trade had put itself on record over and over again against it. The passage of the bill is not now urged, he said, by the repsentative of any commercial, manufacturing, or agricultural interest of the country; some of the members of the Massachusetts Board of State Charities have been anxious that there should be some legislation on the subject, but as far as he could find out no board of State charities representing any commonwealth in the finion has declared itself in favor of this particular bill; the only organization which urges its passage is the New-York Emigration Commission; that body prepared the bill and its representatives alone appear in its behalf. The theory of the measure, Mr. Hill aid, is that every immigrant coming into the United States is a pauper, and that it is therefore necessary to collect \$2 head money for each one in order to establish a fund for his future support. No other theory will justify its passage. The bill also requires the agents of steamship companies to ask of all passengers certain questions in order to prevent the landing in this country of eriminals, paupers, and others whom public policy requires shall not become a part of our population. The truth is that such people will have no difficulty in an-

swering the questions proposed.

Mr. Hill then spoke at some length of the debt which this country owes to immigration, and drew the concluto cultivate a judicial spirit become more and more | sion that the United States can well afford to bear the | he swooned at his father's grave. At 13 he was so swift incidental evils which have accompanied it. He believes that the class of immigrants which now arrives comprises, as a general rule, people of intelligence, who have definite plans before they leave their own country; and he thinks that the necessary provision for the care of its paupers is a matter for each State to manage for itself. Boston, he said, has made perfect arrangements; the Emigration Commission, in behalf of the State, examines every person arriving and allows none except proper ones to pass; others are prohibited from landing. The same system prevails in Philadelphia and Baltimore. In

steamship companies bringing immigrants to this country. These companies, he said, have always been opposed to the collection of head money; it is a question of dollars and cents to them, but a matter of humanity to the State. He illustrated the importance of the measure to New-York by quoting the statistics of immigration during the last twenty-five years. In that pe riod, he said, out of 8,000,000 of immi grants who have arrived in the United States 6,000,000 have come through the port of New-York; none of these people have ever complained of the headmoney tax; the measure is not one of local importance alone; the West is equally benefited by the levying of the tax; in the institutions of the Empire State there are to-day many persons who have been sent there from Iowa, Wisconsin, and other Western States, and who would have had to be supported at the expense of those States had it not been for this system.

JAPAN'S CONGRATULATIONS. A LETTER FROM THE MIKADO IN REGARD TO THE EXHIBITION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- The Japanese Minister to-day presented to the President a letter addressed to him by the Mikado, of which the following is a trans-

To His Excellency the President of the United States, Gen. ULYSSES B. GRANT. To His Excellency the President of the United States, Gen.
ULYSSES B. GRANT.
GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND: Now that the great Exposition in honor of the 100th year of your Excellency's
National Government has been emmently successful, I
write to congratulate you and the people over whom
you preside. From my subjects in the United States I
have heard nothing except words of kindness in regard
to the manner in which they have been treated; and I
believe the recent intercourse between our countries
will have a tendency to strengthen the friendship
already existing. I would here express the sinears hope
hat the incoming century will not only witness the continued progress and prosperily of your nation in all
branches of industry, but also prove an era of peace.
This will be handed to you in person by my Minister residing near your Government, who has been directed to
emphasize my very friendly congratulations.

**Tokio*, the lat day of the 10th mouth of the 9th year of
MUZSUMITO.

AFFRAY AT THE EBBITT HOUSE. COL. FAIRFAX AND ASSISTANT DOORKERPER SCHELL WOUND EACH OTHER BADLY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- During the last ses sion of Congress Col. Fairfax, being on the floor of the House of Representatives by invitation of a member, Mr.

To-night, while Mr. Schell was sitting in the Ebbitt House, Col. Fairfax entered and denounced him for the act and said he was now "going to cut him for it." Mr. Schell drew a pocket-knife and opened it. Fairfax did the same, and the affray began. The parties were soon separated by the bystanders, but not before each had received several cuts. Mr. Schell received a cut in the right side, near the ribs, one inch long and an inch and a half deep. Col. Fairfax was badly cut in the left side of the throat and in different parts of the person, the principal two cuts being in the breast and stomach. He was carried to his room and physicians summoned, who pronounced his injuries severe, but not dangerous. Schell waiked to the office of Dr. Bliss, where his wounds were

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876.

The investigation as to New-Jersey's alleged ineligible Presidential elector, Benjamin Williamson, was not con-tinued before the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections this morning. None of the witnesses appeared from that State. Chas. Stifel of the witnesses appeared from that State. Chas. Stife of the IIId Missouri District, who contested the seat of Gen. D. M. Frost in the Electoral College of Missouri on the ground that Frost had served in the Confederate Army and had never had his disabilities removed, appeared at the committee room. He did not give his testimony. Certain papers filed with the Secretary of State of Mis-souri, which the committee have called for, had not ar-rived. Mr. Stifel does not wish to give his testimony until the papers are received. The case will be taken up next Monday morning. Hamilton Hill of Boston, Secretary of the National

Hamilton Hill of Boston, Secretary of the National Board of Trade, addressed the House Committee on Commerce to-day in opposition to the bill introduced by Representative Cox of New-York, last session, "to regu-Representative Cox of New-York, last session, "to regulate immigration." Mr. Hill specially protested against that feature of the bill which provides for the collection of a per capita tax of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ upon every immigrant landed at any port in this country. John E. Deviln, counsel for the New-York State Commissioners of Immigration, was then heard by the committee in advocacy of the bill. Arguments on the subject will be heard from other gentlemento-morrow.

The trustees, superintendents, and teachers of the various State and public justifications for the instruction

various State and public institutions for the instruction of the blind, representing the interests of over 30,000 blind persons in the United States, have united in a petiblind persons in the United States, have united in a per-tion to Congress in regard to the needs of the blind. In accordance with the views of the petitioners Represent-ative Watterson's bill, introduced yesterday, proposes an appropriation of \$250,000, to be invested in bonds and set apart for a perpetual fund. The interest on the bonds is to be paid over to the trustees of the American Printing House in Louisville, to be expended in printing books for distribution among the blind in the various in-stitutions for the blind in this country.

The Cabinet meeting to-day was two hours long. All the members were present. There was merely an informal conversation about the political situation, and especially regarding events at Columbia. No official action has yet been taken concerning the two claimants as Governor of South Carolina, but there is no doubt that this question will soon be formally considered.

On Monday next Senator Edmunds will call up the Morton bill to provide new machinery for the election of President without fail. The Schate would have procceded to its consideration to-day had it not been for the tence of one Senator who desires to make a speech on it. Senator Edmunds will not wait for Mr. Morton to return.

The preparation of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation bill by the House Sub-committee on Appropriations was begun to-day, and judging from the progress made, they will probably be ready to report to the full commutace early next week.

The official returns show that the Democratic electors

for the State of Texas at large received 103,612 votes; Republican electors, 44,552 votes; Democratic majority, 59,060; total vote, 148,164, against a vote at the last State election of 200,081.

The Treasury Department will issue an order for the payment of the January interest on United States bonds on and after the 24th or 25th inst., without rebate. In the House of Representatives to-morrow, in accord ance with a previous order, culogies on the death of Speaker Kerr will be delivered.

"CHRISTOPHER NORTH,"

LECTURE BY JAMES T. FIELDS AT CHICKERING HALL. James T. Fields gave his fourth "familiar talk" at Chickering Hail last evening, the subject being John Wilson, famous as " Christopher North," the Seauthor, who, as Mr. Fields said, on his own ground stood with Robert Burns and Walter Scott in the history of his country's literature. In all literature, said the lecturer you will not find a more ardent enthusiast than Joh Wilson. Better to him was a wild spot on the heather than the pleasures of a palace. His study, like Wordsworth's, was in the open air. He was born May 19, 1785. His mother, looking into her John's large eyes, used to say that her bairn had brains that he would one day know how to use. As he grew older his interest was books and open air sports. He had the depth of feeling and passion peculiar to a sensitive nature. When a boy of foot and strong of arm that his comrades ste awe of him. It was young John Wilson who gave to Scott the name of the Great Magician, and was the first to see the poet in the lines of "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage." He fell in love before he was 18, and he would not have been a poet if he had not. It turned out sadly for him, and the disappointment had a bad influence for a time. Graduated from Oxford with honor, he settled at Elleray, which De Quincey called the finest terr.ce prospect in England. In 1809 he married Miss Jane ones to pass; others are prohibited from landing. The same system prevalls in Philadelphia and Baltimore. In order to accomplish what the New-York Emigration Commission desires, he would advise that organization to invite representatives of boards of trade from the Atlantic coast and the great West to a conference, in which some measure can be devised that would be mutually satisfactory.

Mr. Devlin, representing the Emigration Commission of New-York, made a speech in favor of the bill. He said that the Boston commissioners have no legal right to prohibit any one from landing, nor can they legally send back any improper person brought to this country as a passenger on any vessel; the steamship companies are fused to take such persons back, and turn them into the streets of Boston to wander at will, with no one to give them information or protection. He knew of no boards of State charities in the United States who are opposed to this bill; the chief opposition comes from boards of trade who are more or less in sympathy with steamship companies bringing immigrants to this country and of New-York and the Allacian and the prospect in Engiand. In 1826 he put forth his fall strength in 1826 he put forth bis fall strength in 1826 he put forth his fall strength in 1826 he put forth bis fall strength in 1826 he put forth his fall s Penny. In 1826 he put forth bis full strength jover. It is be the property of the property o

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

MEETING OF THE CODE COMMITTEE. A meeting of the Executive Council of the International Code Committee of America was held at the residence of Judge Charles A. Peabody in this city last evening. The Secretary, A. P. Sprague, announced that one of the objects of the meeting was the election of new members. The following among others, were elected members : Justices Bradley, Miller, and Hunt of the United States Supreme Court (other members of the court being already members); Attorney-General Taft, Judge Thomas M. Cooley, Wm. 8, Groesbeck, Chief-Justice Bartol of Maryland, Chief-Justice Beasley and Chancellor Runyon of New-Jersey, David A. Wells.

A letter from Charles Francis Adams to the Secretary was read, in which Mr. Adams, who is one of the Vice-Presidents of the society, expressed his approval of the movement toward international law reform and arbitra-tion, but regretted that the course of the United States Government in distributing the Geneva Award was not as intended by the arbiters. A discussion upon the gen as intended by the arbiters. A discussion upon the general results of the work of the society followed, in which David Dudley Field, the President of the meeting, Judge Peabodyl and Dr. Prime took part. It was the generally expressed opinion that the Eastern question would be settled without a great war. The next annual conference of the general association was announced to be held at Antwerp, Belgium, Aug. 21, 1877, and the intention was to send a strong delegation from America.

HALLOWELL, Me., Dec. 15.—During an alarm of fire here this morning the wife of Charles Fuller died from the effects of fright. WORCESTER, Mass., Dec. 15.—In Hubbardston yeaterday, A. H. Wilson, aged 70 years, was thrown from a wagon, and died last night.

wagon, and died last night.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 15.—At the annual meeting of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters to-day George Carpenter was elected President.

WILKESBARRE, Penn., Dec. 15.—F. A. Beamish was to-day convicted of forgery committed when he was Sectionary of the Fourth District School-tax Board of Scranton, Penn.

Peun.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 15.—The British brig
Esperanze, from Prince Edward's Island for Philadelphia, has
put into Newport in distress. She fell in with the schooner
Annie Jones, Capt. Jones, of St. George, from Brunswick, Ga.,
for New York, water-looged, and took of the captain and four
nice, and brought them to Newport.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH

ACCESS TO RECORDS REFUSED. PRESIDENT ORTON REFUSES TO PRODUCE TELE GRAMS-DISPATCH FROM CHAIRMAN MORRISON. NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 15 .- The following communi-

cation was telegraphed North to-night: The Hon. Samuel Randall, Speaker, Washington, D.C.: Every obstacle has been, and will be interposed to hin der the committee in the discharge of its duty. Republican witnesses have been threatened, and dare not testify without incurring loss of position and personal anger. The production of papers and telegrams are refused, it is believed, upon assurances of protection from obedience to its process, the committee cannot discharge its duty. The House should remain in session. Have just received the following message:

(The following is the message in substance]:

The subpenas were served before the investigation which the committee had been directed to make was begun, and before evidence had been presented to the committee either that the persons named in the subpenas had sent any messages whatever, or that any messages sent by them related to the subject matter of the investigation. It appears to have been assumed that persons holding night official positions under the Federal and State Governments, and others prominent in public affairs, were in the habit of sending messages by telegraph; and without attempting to ascertain if any of these messages were material to the investigation, the officers and agents of this company have been commanded to lay aside the business in which they are engaged—to become spies and detectives upon and informers against the customers who have reposed in us the gravest confidences concerning both their official and their private affairs.

It has, therefore, been decided to decline, very respectfully, to permit the employées of this company to produce before any committee of either House of Congress messages sent or received by the representatives of either the Democratic or the Republican party, at least until after Congress shall have approved the subpenas of the committees and directed that their demands be enforced.

The following reals here seen sent: [The following is the message in substance]:

The following reply has been sent:

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 15, 1876. WILLIAM ORTON, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, New-York:

I have nothing to do with your motives for refusing to bey the process of the House of Representatives. My duty will be performed by invoking its aid in the enforcement of such process. Regretting your refusal of information necessary to ascertain the whole truth as to the Louisiana election, I am yours, respectfully, WM. R. MORRISON.

LOUISIANA INVESTIGATION.

WHO HAS CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT OUTRAGES. NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 15 .- The House Committee met in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce today. Only witnesses, counsel of the parties, and persons cially invited were admitted. Henry Carroll (colored)

I reside in Orleans Parish, on the right bank of the river, five miles below the city; was formerly a Republican; joined the Liberal party and voted for McEnery in 1872; voted the Democratic ticket this year, for which my life was threatened and attempts made to murder me; a man was snot and killed on ENOV. 10, having been mistaken for me; the oegroes had been threatened with all sorts of punishment if they voted the Democratic ticket; they were told that Gen. Sharidan was coming, and that every Democratic negro would be shot; they were warned also that they and their children would be again casiaved if they placed Democrats in power, and that they would no longer have schools; some of the negroes did not desire to vote, saying it was no use, it did them no good; they were told if they did not vote their names would be taken and they would see what came of it; I made two species during the campaign, one at Tunisburg and the other at Mr. Stanton's plantation; while making the special at Tunisburg the negroes frequently interrupted me with threats of my life, saying that every Democratic negro would have his throat cut and his heart cut out.

Will Ward (colored) of Grant Parish testified that in 1874 he was shot at and struck on the head by Republication. I reside in Orleans Parish, on the right bank of the

1874 he was shot at and struck on the head by Republi caus because he wanted to run for the Legislature; be was then a Republican and had to leave the State because he knew too much; Dewees and Mathews told him if he did not leave be would be killed; he remained out of the State six mouths. He took his seat in the Legi laare in 1874, although be was fairly beaten at the polls. paper written by witness entitled, "History of the Outrages in Red it ver," was handed to him. Ward said he wrote it, and believed it to be true at the time because he had been so informed by whites; he now knew better. The committee requested Ward to make such corrections as he desired and return the papers to-morrow. Ward is now a Democrat.

now a Democrat.

O. E. Morgan testified:

I live in New-Orleans; talked with Supervisor Anderson and Gov. Kellogg before election; Anderson didn't think it safe to return to East Febreham, but Gov. Kellogg instructed me to return and arrange for negroes to vote at two or three pinces and elect members to be Legislature; talked with Anderson after the election; Anderson told me that the Democrats had carried the parish, only one Republican vote being polled; on the meeting day some men came to Anderson's office and said he ought to be hunsed, but they did not otherwise molest him; I claim to be a Republican; was clerk in the Custom-house, but was discianged on Nov. 10; frequented the Custom-house afterward; saw a number of persons there making out affinishes; knew in some instances they were not in necordance with the testimony given in regard to intimidation, &c.; the witnesses were mostly negroes brought here by depuly marshals from the country; I talked with Supervisor Clover of: Fast Baton Rouge, who said it was peaceable there on the day of the election, but Clover did not consider it safe to remain there after the election; Clover told Morgan after the election; Clover told Morgan after the election that he had thrown out some boxes and elected three Republicans to the Legislature; conversed with Supervisor Leday of Lafongene before and after the election; Leday told me the parish was Democratic, but it would go all right; he said not enough polis to elect the Republicans; he said nothing about intimidation; I was advised not to go before the Congressional Committee, as I would not get my place back in the Custom-house if I testified.

John Petty, colored, testified that he late election; at-O. B. Morgan testified: John Petty, colored, testified that he resides in Algiers;

voted the Democratic ticket at the late election; at tempts were afterward made on his life; he was shot at and beaten by colored men because he voted the Demo

The Senate Committee will arrive to-night.

COLUMBIA QUIET. NO CHANGE IN THE SITUATION-DEMOCRATS CAN

NOT YET AGREE ON A SENATOR. COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 15 .- The Senate Comtittee, with the exception of Senator Merrimon, who stopped on the way at Raleign, arrived last night. Sen-Merrimon is expected to-morrow morning, when

the committee will proceed to work.

The House Committee examined several witnesses to day, and have obtained returns from nearly all the pre-cincts except about 15, which will be supplied by testi-

W. D. Simpson, the Democratic claimant as Lieutenant-Governor, to-day sent a letter to the Senate claiming his election and demanding his seat as presiding officer of that body. The letter was read and referred to the Ju-diciary Committee for report. Another ballot was taken to-day for United States Senator by the Democrats in joint session. The vote was scattering and resulted in no choice.

AN IMPETUOUS VIRGINIAN. GEN. B. T. JOHNSON INTRODUCES VIOLENT RESO

LUTIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 15 .- In the Senate to day considerable debate resulted from the introduction by Senator Bradley T. Johnson of a long preamble with resolutions setting forth the state of affairs in South Carolina, denouncing the Federal authorities in un seasured terms, and tendering to the people of that State and to Gov. Hampton Virginia's thanks for their forbearance and heroism, and sympathizing with them in the sufferings they have endured in upholding the principles of free government as embodied in the Constitution of the United States. The resolutions were finally laid over.

FLORIDA. TALLAHASSEE, Dec. 15 .- The Congressional Committee is still at work on Leon County, but appears to work slowly. The Republicans have occupied most of the day and have submitted little in rebuttal of the charges made yesterday. The Supreme Court will re-assemble in the morning and the mandamus case be taken up for argument and decision. Everything is quiet

MEETING OF THE DEPOSITORS OF A BROKEN BANK.

F. Thompson, receiver of the Abingdon Square Savings Bank, stated yesterday that a dividend of 25 per cent would probably be declared soon. Since September he had received \$10,000, but money was realized very slowly on the assets, as the greater part was real estate. At a meeting of a committee of the depositors last night, at No. 345 West Eighteenth-st., it was stated that the trustees are making arrangements to pay a larger dividend. Three trustees—E. G. W. Woors, Walter J. Price, and H. J. Mohlman—have agreed to accede to any terms that the others may deem fair. It is rumored

that the Hanover Bank note of \$15,000 has been paid by that the Hanover Bank note of \$15,000 has been paid by
the trustees. That the depositors were kept in ignorance
of the real condition of the bank is discovered in the following extract from a catalogue circulated up to the day
of insolvency: "All money safely invested in bonds and
mortgages and governments only. Indemnity te depositors beyond the security mentioned, guaranteed by the
officers and trustees by special deposits for that purpose."
This catalogue bears the signatures of all the officers and
trustees. The trustees and depositors will probably hold
a conference in a few days.

SOUTHERN TOWNS IN FLAMES.

BOLIVAR, TENN., NEARLY DESTROYED. LOSS OF \$200,000-THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE AT-TRIBUTED TO AN INCENDIARY.

Мемрыя, Tenn., Dec. 15.-А dispatch from Belivar, Tenn.. says: This morning about 2 o'clock a fire was discovered in the saloon of Osborn & Co., at the north-west corner of the square. The building being of wood the flames spread with great rapidity. Every building in the square was burned. Thence the fire crossed an alley west of the old Methodist Church, and the wind being south carried the flames across Market-st. The old jail, and an old dwelling-house owned by Mr. Miller, distant a square south of the point where the fire originated, were also consumed. They were unoccupied The Post-Office and the Express offices were burned. The losses will aggregate \$200,000; the insurance amounts to about \$20,000. Very little of the stocks of goods was saved. Twenty-two houses in all were burned. The fire is supposed to have been the work of

THE LITTLE ROCK CONFLAGRATION. LOSSES REACHING \$140,000, WITH INSURANCES OF \$50,000

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 15 .- The spread of the terrible conflagration which visited this city last night was stopped at midnight, when it was confined to two squares between Markham-st, and the river. The loss, as near as can be ascertained, is \$140,000, and insurance about \$50,000. The fire caught in the city ice-

house, owned by M. D. McCable, valued at \$2,000, and

in it was stored \$1,000 worth of liquors, owned by N. Kupferl. The following are among the losers : Metropolitan Hotel, owned by Dr. R. L. Dodge and by persons residing at Lexington, Ky., \$35,000; insurance \$20,000. Adams & Desson, lessees, furniture, \$6,000; nsured. L. D. Gleason, restaurant, \$10,000; no insurance. The Merchants' National Bank moved their surance. The Merchants' National Bank moved their money to the Southern Express Office, also their books in daily use, but lost \$5,000 on furniture; no insurance. In Stoddart Block, Angelo and John Marre, hotel, \$1,500; no insurance; S. Warmser, cigar stand, \$300; Thomas Scott, billiard hall, \$2,300; insurance, \$900. Huston & Peal, intelligence office, \$300. On Dodge Row, owned by Jr. Dodge, there is a loss of \$18,000 on the building, and no insurance.

and no insurance.
Falling walls injured several persons, among them
Mortimer Balter, fatally, and — Phillips, dancerously.
The wind providentially went down, which was all that saved the city.

There is now no first-class hotel in the city. The work of rebuilding began to-day. The Grand Opera House was on fire this morning, but the flames were subdued and the building saved. Yesterday the residence of Edward Babecek, with stables and entire con ents, was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$8,000, on which there

THE FIRE RECORD.

A BROOKLYN BREWERY BURNED. In the stable of Urbond's brewery, at Scholesst. and Bushwick-ave., Brooklyn, a fire broke out at 7 p. m. yesterday, causing a loss of \$500 on the stables, firemen, on going through the building, found les Schweitzer, a driver, in bed, suffocated by the

AT MILLVILLE, N. J.

On Wednesday the packing and storing house of Whitall, Tatum & Co., glass manufacturers at Millville, N. J., was totally destroyed by fire. The loss is between \$6,000 and \$7,000.

ON STATEN ISLAND.

A barn, owned by Mrs. Dieton, on Carolinest. West Brighton, S. I., was totally destroyed by fire yesterday, with its contents, valued at \$400. This makes the fourth barn that has been burned on Staten Island with n the past four weeks, and it is thought that they were all willfully set on fire.

FLOURING MILLS BURNED. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15 .- The Capital Flouring Mill of this city, Deming, Palmer & Co., proprietors, was partially destroyed by fire last night. The loss is \$25,000; insured for half that sum.

FIRE IN WM. M. EVARTS'S HOUSE A fire occurred last night in the dwelling of William M. Evarts, at No. 231 Second-ave., which, however, was promotly extinguished, a damage of only \$25

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, Dec. 15 .- The Lateral Canal Comnission met at the Deiavan House to-day and examined Division Engineer Charles A. Sweet upon the general subject which they have under investigation. He thought the Black River Canal should be retained as a feeder, but the rest should be sold.

It is understood that the commission have already agreed upon their report, three of them favoring the sale f all the laterals, and the remaining member, Mr Warner Miller, dissenting. He will present a minority report, arguing that they should be retained and improved for navigation. The commission will probably hold only one or two more meetings, and those only to revise their final reports.

ARREST OF BURGLARS AT COHOES. Cohoes, N. Y., Dec. 15 .- At 3 o'clock this morning five burgiars were surprised by officers while at work on the safe in the depot of the New-York Central and Hudson River Ratiroad Company, in this city. A cautious advance was made and the building surrounded before the outside watch could give those in the building warning. As Sergt. Hodgson opened the door of the depot a voice cried, "Shoot." Simultaneously a shot was fired, the ball passing through the officer's clothing and grazing the skin. An immediate assault was made, and twenty shots were exchanged before the desperate men succumbed. Two were caught, but the other three escaped. On being conveyed to the station-house they were identified as "Dan" Hayes of Cohoes and "Tom"

were identified as "Dan" Hayes of Conces and "Tom"
Hagerty of Troy, both well-known criminals. Hagerty
had received a wound, taking eff et in the bowels, which
will prove fatal. Hayes was unharmed.
The burglars expected to secure a large sum of money,
which they mistakenly supposed was in the safe. This
is supposed to be the masked gang which has been operating so successfully in this vicinity.
LATER.—Hagerty, the wounded burglar, died this aftermoon.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE CENTENNIAL SURPLUS. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15 .- A bill in equity was to-day filed in the United States Circuit Court. Judge Cadwalader, by W. H. Rawle, esq., in behalf of the Cen-tennial Board of Finance, against Joseph Patterson and Henry Lewis of Pennsylvania, John Gill of New-Jersey, the State National Bank of Camden, and George Eyster, Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia. The bill says that the total amount of subscriptions re-ceived by the board amounted to \$2,400,000, and after the payment of debts there remains for distribution about \$2,000,000. There were no profits distribution about \$2,000,000. There were no profits derived from the Exhibition, and the said balance is insufficient to pay the stockholders. The defendants claim the balance should be distributed pro rata among the creditors of the Board, and Assistant Treasurer Eyster claims for the Government \$1,500,000 out of the said balance. The Board say they have no interest whatever in the said balance, but in order to be protected in the premises they pray the court to order the claiming parties to interplead, and to decide their rights by a decree as in Chancery, the Board offering to dispose of the fund in the meantime as the court may direct.

A FIGHT WITH NEGROES IN NEW-ORLEANS. NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 15 .- A row occurred between Wm. Young, mate of the steamboat Pointevent, and two colored men to-day. Young ordered the negroes off the boat; they went, but subsequently returned with pistols, when they were fired upon by a deck hand, who pistois, when they wounded two negroes. A large crowd of negroes then collected about the boat, when the police interfered and arrested Billy Hamlim, who had donathe shooting. The negroes took Hamlin from the police, but he was shown white mer and placed in the negroes took Hamiln from the police, but he was
finally resound by some white men and placed in the
harbor station. The police attempted to remove Hamiln
to the central station for safety. A reënforcement of the
Metropolitan Police had been ordered to the scene of the
disturbance, and when they started off with the prisoner
they were attacked with stones and brickbats, and finally
fired upon. The police returned the fire with revolvers,
and many shots were exchanged. Ten or twenty negroes
and four whites were wounded. GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE. GREATER DISCRETION ALLOWED THE RUSSIAN EM-BASSADOR - PACIFIC ASSURANCES - RUSSIAN AGENTS AT WORK IN BULGARIA.

Paris, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876. This evening Le Temps announces that the Russian Embassador in Paris has received a letter from Prince Gortchakoff declaring that Russia's insructions to Gen. Ignatieff, the Russian Plenipotentiary at the Eastern Conference, will show that she has not arrived at an irrevocable decision. The movements of Russian troops should not cause surprise. The Minister of War merely wished to prepare himself while diplomacy was endeavoring to avoid a conflict.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876. The preliminary conferences will end to-day or to-mor-row, and the formal Conference will probably begin next

The Greek population of Turkey has presented an address to the Porte, expressing devotion to the Govern-ment of Turkey, but at the same time protesting against its granting concessions exclusively to the Slave

The Governor of the Vilayet of the Danube has addressed a dispatch to the Grand Vizier announcing that Russian agents are endeavoring to induce the Bulgarians to present an address to the Conference demanding Russian occupation.
CONSTANTINOPLE, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876.

The next sitting of the preliminary conference will held on Monday. There was no sitting to-day. LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 16, 1876.

The Standard's Vienna dispatch reports that Servia

has requested Russia to commission Gen. Ignatieff to represent Servia at the conference. A Vienna telegram says the sanitary condition of the army of Southern Russia is not satisfactory. Many soldiers are on the sick-list in consequence of fatigue and

exposure during long railway journeys. Chest com-

JULES SIMON CORDIALLY SUPPORTED.

plaints are prevalent in the camps.

Paris, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876. The declaration in the Chamber of Deputics yesterday by M. Juies Simon, President of the Council and Minister of the Interior, regarding his policy, is received favorably by nearly all the papers. The Republique Francaise approves the ministerial programme un qualifiedly, and says: "The declarations made by M. Simon are excellent and of a nature to satisfy and reassure public opinion. They justify the expectation of a

THE BELGIAN BANK FRAUDS. LONDON, Friday, Dec. 15, 1876.

A Brussels telegram says: "The loss to the Union du Crédit Bank by the defalcation of its President is estimated to be \$800,000. The manager attempted suicide but did not succeed. The absconding President is named Merique. Before leaving he wrote a letter seek-ing to explain his operations, and said he had intended to commit suncide. His son-in-law, who has just returned from Paris, says that M. Merique is in that city."

THE MEXICAN DISTURBANCES. BROWNSVILLE, Dec. 15 .- Gen. Rocha, who

was recently sent as Minister to Berlin, has returned here with Gen. Quesada of Cuba, intending to capture Matamoros for the Iglesias party. Gen. Revueltas is still in command there, and is levying forced loans. The partisans of Iglesias assert that the interior has submitted to his authority. Trade is paralyzed, and every one longs for the return of order.

FOREIGN NOTES.

MADRID, Dec. 15 .- Gen. Moriones has been appointed Governor of the Philippine Islands.

ROME, Dec. 15 .- The relations of Spain and the Vatican are not very friendly, principally in consequence of the dispute relative to the Italian church in Madrid.

VERSAILLES, Dec. 15 .- The Chamber of Deputies to-day confirmed the reflection of M. Mun, a Clericalist, who was once unseafed on account of undue influence of the clergy at his first election.

OBITUARY.

GEN. JAMES A. HARDIE.

The death of Inspector-General James A. Hardie, which occurred on Thursday night in Washing ton, is much deplored by officers of the army. He was appointed as a cadet from New-York to the Military Franklin, Augur, Fred. Steele, and Ingalis. He com manded the 4th Regiment of New-York Volunteers in the Mexican war, and since that time performed duty in various portions of the country, and in the late war was an aid-de-camp to both Gens. McClellan and Wool. Ho was also some time on the staff of Gen. Burnside. In March, 1865, he was breveted Major-General for faith-ful, meritorious, and distinguished services in the Inspector-General's Department of the army

Washington, Dec. 15 .- A telegram was received to-day by the Court of Alabama Claims announce ing the death at Council Bluffs, Iowa, of Judge Caleb Baldwin, a member of the court. Judge Baldwin was appointed by President Grant in June, 1874, and was one of the judges of the court as originally constituted, and had taken an active part in its labors.

A FREIGHT COMBINATION DISSOLVED. The New-York agent of the North-Western Dispatch Freight Combination over the Erie, Atlantic and Great Western, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads yesterday morning received orders from the general manager to close up the business of the corporation by Jan. 1, 1877. This freight combination is, therefore, disbanded. Continued low rates and hard times are said to be the reason of this step.

SERIOUS RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 15 .- The Commercial's Lafayette, Indiana, special says an excursion train, consisting of engine and one coach, on the Cincin nati, Lafayette, and Chicago Railroad, was thrown from the track six miles west of Lafavette to-day, by a broker driving wheel. The coach was thrown down a 30 feet embanament, rolling over three times in its descent, breaking into pieces, and more or less severely bruis-ing all the occupants.

SEVERELY INJURED BY A COLORED WOMAN. Charles Lafferty engaged in an altercation with a colored woman, Sarah Birch, at No. 103 Mercer-

st., tate last night, and was severely punished. He was struck over the head with a chair in the hands of his antagonist, knocked down a flight of stairs, and received a broken leg and severe injuries on the face. STAFF OF THE NEW GOVERNOR FOF CON-

NECTICUT. HARTFORD, Dec. 15 .- Governor-elect Hub-

pard has announced the following staff: Adjutant-Gene ral, Gen. William B. Frankiin of Hartford; Quarter master-General, Gen. Darius N. Couch of Norwalk; Pay-Master-General, Col. Edward E. Bradley of New-Haven Alds-de-Camp, Harlon P. Harris of Salisbury and George Warren, second, of Putnam.

PRISONERS LIBERATED BY MASKED MEN. Louisville, Ky., Dec. 15 .- Five men charged with murder were liberated from the jail at Bardstown Ky., at 2 o'clock this morning. Advices to Louisville detectives say that ten masked men opened their cells after gaining admittance to the jail on pretense of inear-cerating a prisoner just arrested.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVEN-TION.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 15 .- The Constitutional Convention to-day adopted amendments providing that removals from office shall not be made for political reasons, and that public money shall not be appropriated for sectarian schools.

CAPT. OSTROM HEARS FROM ENGLAND. SYRACUSE, Dec. 15 .- Capt. Ostrom of the Cornell crew has received official information of the declination of the English crews to row the proposed four-oared race on the Thames in August.

ESCAPE OF CONVICTS. ALBANY, Dec. 15 .- Two St. Lawrence County prisoners escaped from the train near Amsterdam to-day. Their names are Howe and Clark. They were handcuffed together, and have not yet been recaptured.

A SALUTE FOR HAYES AND WHEELER. STAMFORD, Conn., Dec. 15 .- The Republicans here have fired 185 guns in honor of the election of Hayes and Wheeler.